

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 57th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION JOINT APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES AND COMMERCE**

**Call to Order:** By **CHAIRMAN DICK HAINES**, on February 16, 2001 at 8:30 A.M., in Room 317-C Capitol.

#### **ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Rep. Dick Haines, Chairman (R)  
Sen. William Crismore, Vice Chairman (R)  
Rep. Christine Kaufmann (D)  
Sen. Linda Nelson (D)  
Sen. Bill Tash (R)

**Members Excused:** Rep. Joe Tropila (D)

**Members Absent:** None.

**Staff Present:** Gary Hamel, Legislative Branch  
Amber Sauer, Committee Secretary  
Doug Schmitz, OBPP

**Please Note:** These are summary minutes. Testimony and discussion are paraphrased and condensed.

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing(s) & Date(s) Posted: Fish, Wildlife, and Parks,  
Chief Plenty Coups State Park  
2/16/2001  
Executive Action: Fish, Wildlife, and Parks,  
Chief Plenty Coups State Park

#### **HEARING ON MONTANA FISH WILDLIFE AND PARKS**

##### **CHIEF PLENTY COUPS STATE PARK**

**CHAIRMAN HAINES** stated the hearing today was to figure out a resolution to how the money appropriated for the Chief Plenty Coups Park will be spent. He wanted to put the money into three

categories:

- 1) The money which has already been spent,
- 2) The money the Park thinks it will spend for the fiscal year,
- 3) The money that could be carried over for next biennium.

**EXHIBIT(jnh39a01), EXHIBIT(jnh39a02), EXHIBIT(jnh39a03), and EXHIBIT(jnh39a04)**

**Mr. Jeff Hagener, Director, Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks,** handed out several exhibits pertaining to what the department plans are regarding Chief Plenty Coups Park and a new biennial request which is explained in DP 619.

**CHAIRMAN HAINES** suggested putting the money into HB 2 as that is where the committee's authority is. He does not think that the committee has authority to put anything into HB 5.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON CHIEF PLENTY COUPS PARK**

**Motion:** **SEN. TASH** moved that **DP 619 CONTINUE CHIEF PLENTY COUPS FUNDING BE ADOPTED.**

**Discussion:** **Mr. Gary Hamel, Legislative Fiscal Division,** agreed to work on language to require a report from the department and notes that the current appropriation will expire at the end of FY 01. **Mr. Doug Monger, Administrator of the Parks Division,** said that the way the decision package is written, it would easily carry over what was not spent.

**SEN. NELSON** requested to hear what **Mr. Bob Raney, Mt. State Parks Foundation,** had to say. **Mr. Raney** said he would like to have the bed tax authenticated. He felt that contamination of the ground water at Chief Plenty Coups is an extremely important issue.

**SEN. TASH** commented that within the parks normal operating procedures water quality would be of very high importance.

**Mr. Raney** said it concerns him that there is not a specific time line for the department to complete projects. He felt they should produce a progress report.

***{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 198}***

**CHAIRMAN HAINES** asked the department if they would be able to provide a time line. **Mr. Hagener** said it would be no problem and that the department would agree to do that.

**{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 250}**

**REP. BILL EGGERS, House District 6**, testified to the committee. He said that the people who were here representing Chief Plenty Coups are all of his children. This park means a great deal to them. **Mr. Eggers** said that he wanted to make it known that he has a great deal of respect for **Mr. Hagener**, and felt that they will be able to resolve the issue.

**SEN. CRISMORE** spoke of how the history spoken about on the floor of the Senate the other day was how Chief Plenty Coups had given his property to the State, and how it was his intent for the state to have that property.

**CHAIRMAN HAINES** clarified that the motion is to put the decision package into HB-2. **Mr. Hamel** would draft the language, report back to the legislative finance committee, and it would be restricted one time only biennial.

**Motion/Vote:** **SEN. TASH** moved that **DP-619 CONTINUE CHIEF PLENTY COUPS PARK FUNDING BE ADOPTED**. Motion carried unanimously with **REP. TROPILA** voting aye by proxy.

**EXHIBIT** (jnh39a05)

**Mr. Hamel**, introduced some language that he recommended the committee pass.

**Motion/Vote:** **SEN. CRISMORE** moved **TO ACCEPT THE BUDGETS AS AMENDED FOR ALL PROGRAMS AND AGENCIES OF THE JOINT APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES AND COMMERCE**. Motion carried 6-0 with a proxy from **REP. TROPILA** voted AYE.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 9:10 A.M.

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REP. DICK HAINES, Chairman

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AMBER SAUER, Secretary

DH/AS

**EXHIBIT** (jnh39aad)